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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR/Austria (Soviet Zone)	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Atomic Warfare Defense Manual	DATE DISTR.	20 August 1954
		NO. OF PAGES	10
DATE OF INFO.		REQUIREMENT NO.	RD
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCES	25X1

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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ARMY review completed.

DOE review completed.

25 YEAR RE-REVIEW

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STATE	#X	ARMY	#X	NAVY	#X	AIR	#X	FBI	#	AEC	#X
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(NOTE: Washington distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#".)

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1. [redacted] the Atomic Warfare Defense Manual entitled "Sergeants' and Soldiers' Handbook" (Pamyatka Soldatu i Serzhantu po Zashchite ot Atomnogo Oruzhiya) [see Enclosure A]. It was a paper-backed pamphlet, 13 x 17 cm., light blue in color, and consisted of about 30 pages. It was available to sergeants, but not to privates. The manual was not classified, but circulation of it was restricted. The classification was not "Secret". 1.

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The subject material was general throughout, and the pamphlet was divided into two main sections.

2. [redacted] contents of the first section:

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The atomic bomb is a new dangerous weapon that possesses tremendous power. This is made possible because of the fact that it is impossible to keep a kilo of uranium together without a chain reaction resulting.

There are in general three types of atomic weapons:

- a. Aerial atomic bombs (avio-atomnyy bomby)
- b. Atomic artillery shells (artilleriskiy atomnyy snaryad)
- c. Combat radioactive substances (BRV - Boyevyye Radioaktivnyye Veshchestva)

Recently there has appeared even a more powerful type of weapon than these. (Note: There is no further explanation in the book, and no reference in the book as to who possessed any of the above-mentioned weapons.)

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Characteristics of an atomic bomb explosion

- a. Explosion
- b. Heat
- c. Blinding flash
- d. Shock waves
- e. Mushroom-type cloud

Types of explosions

- a. Air - full round fireball appears
- b. Ground - half fireball appears
- c. Underwater (no description given)

Effects of an atomic explosion

- a. Burns - appear on exposed or unprotected parts of the body at 1,200 - 2,000 m. from the explosion. Heat generated by the explosion at the center of the blast is 1,200,000 - 2,000,000° C.
- b. Shock waves (udarnaya volna) - can tear down buildings or other objects for some distance from explosion. A tank turret may be knocked off a tank at distances up to 800 m. from the explosion.
- c. Radiation (pronikayushchiya radiatsiya) - continues for some time following the explosion.

The first section of the pamphlet ends with the following sentence: "There are simple and dependable defensive measures against the atomic bomb."

3. The second section of the pamphlet deals with protective measures available against the atomic bomb. [REDACTED] contents of this section:

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The immediate action at the time of the flash is to throw yourself into any available trench, foxhole, or shell hole, or to get behind a wall, tree stump, tank, rock, or log [see Encl. B and Encl. G]. Lie face downward and away from the direction of the blast. If no cover is available, fall flat on the ground, facing away from the blast. In all cases close your eyes and cover your face if possible to prevent being blinded by the flash.

Following flash you have one or two minutes in which to seek better cover against the shock waves which will follow.

The air and surrounding locality will then become radioactive. Don your protective items of ordinary CW issue. (Note: No breakdown is made of specific items. [REDACTED] gas masks and protective capes were the ordinary CW issue.)

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Once clad in equipment and clothing of CW issue, it is possible to cross radioactive areas. (Note: No mention is made of the method to be used in crossing.)

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After exposure in radioactive areas, troops are led away from the areas. It will be then necessary to decontaminate weapons and equipment. For this, ordinary CW methods will suffice. Use CW decontamination liquid to wash the weapons and equipment. Wipe exposed portions of the body with CW cotton patches (Vatnyy Tampun). On larger pieces of equipment it is necessary to decontaminate those parts that are handled, such as the traversing wheels, triggers, etc. Care must be taken to clean all optical devices and sighting equipment; otherwise they will become blackened or clouded. Troops are to wash with ordinary soap.

In the second portion of the pamphlet, some comparisons are made as to radioactive penetration through various objects such as metal, soil, water, and forested areas.

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Radiation through a tank would be as high as 40%. It was stated that men entrenched in forested areas would be comparatively safe.

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There were several sketches in the pamphlet. [See Encls. A to E.]

4. [redacted] Each platoon leader had a copy of the manual. [redacted] officers studied atomic subjects from other unknown atomic manuals.

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5. [redacted]

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6. [redacted] the students undergoing training in the 55th Separate Tk. Tng. Bn. practiced digging tank defense and personnel trenches in much the same manner as was prescribed in the "Sergeants' and Soldiers' Handbook". These defenses were built in the garrison area of the 55th Sep. Tk. Tng. Bn. during April 1954. The positions were never filled, and became overgrown with grass.

7. During April 1954, [redacted] an atomic lecture given by Maj. V. N. SENKO, Chief of Staff, 55th Sep. Tk. Tng. Bn. The lecture was attended by EM from the Svc. Sqd. and the Housekeeping Plat., 55th Sep. Tk. Tng. Bn. A total of 18 EM were present. SENKO read from the "Sergeants' and Soldiers' Handbook", and no new material was added to that in the pamphlet.

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One of the EM questioned the officer about the new type of weapon mentioned in the pamphlet (see subpar A 2, above) (the hydrogen bomb - vodarodnaya bomba). SENKO merely answered that the new weapon was much more powerful than the present atomic bomb. No mention was made as to who possessed the new bomb.

[redacted] this lecture was held in preparation for the annual training inspection, which was to be held at the end of April 1954.

[redacted] the officers received atomic instruction in separate classes.

8. [redacted] the CO of the Automotive School left the unit on or about 15 May 1954. [redacted] attended a maneuver with atomic training implications at the Allentsteig Tng. Area. [redacted] all regimental CO's and separate unit CO's from the 13th Gds. Mecz. Div. attended the maneuver.

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[ ] the exercise lasted for 10 days and that portions of the 95th Gds. Rifle Div. and 13th Gds. Mecz. Div. had taken part. The 95th Gds. Rifle Div. acted as the enemy, while the 13th Gds. Mecz. Div. acted as the offensive group.

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[ ] the 15th Gds. Tk. Regt. and the 44th Gds. Tk. Regt., both of the 13th Gds. Mecz. Div., did not participate in the exercise. The 55th Sep. Tk. Tng. Bn. and the Automotive School did not take part in the exercise.

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The CG of the Central Group of Forces in Austria, (fnu) BIRYUZOV, directed the exercise. There was also a simulated aerial bomb drop by planes of the 59th Air Armv.

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After the exercise, [ ] an evening formation of the 55th Sep. Tk. Tng. Bn. Orders were read complimenting units and individuals which had distinguished themselves in the exercise.

[ ] Mention was made in the orders of the award of gifts such as money and wrist watches to several individuals for distinguished work in the exercise.

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9. [ ] future atomic training subjects would be carried on the battalion training schedule under the heading of Special Formations (Spets Stroyevaya).

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## Enclosures:

- A. Cover Sheet of Sergeants' and Soldiers' Handbook
- B. Using Tank or Tree Stump for Individual Protection Against Atomic Attack
- C. Using Shell Hole for Individual Protection Against Atomic Attack
- D. Method of Digging in Field Pieces Defense Against Atomic Attack; Individual Fox Holes or Trenches
- E. Method of Digging in Tanks, SP's, Vehicles, etc. Against Atomic Attack

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Enclosure A: Cover Sheet of Sergeants' and Soldiers' Handbook

МИНИСТЕРСТВО ОБОРОНЫ СОЮЗА ССР

ЭКЗ N 11111

ПАМЯТКА  
СОЛДАТУ И СЕРЖАНТУ  
ПО ЗАЩИТЕ  
ОТ АТОМНОГО ОРУЖИЯ

ВОЕННОЕ ИЗДАТЕЛЬСТВО  
МИНИСТЕРСТВА ОБОРОНЫ СОЮЗА ССР  
МОСКВА 1953 г.

LEGEND - Translation

Ministry of Defense USSR

Copy \_\_\_\_\_

Sergeants' and Soldiers'  
Handbook for Defense  
Against Atomic Weapons

Military Printing Office  
Ministry of Defense USSR  
Moscow 1953

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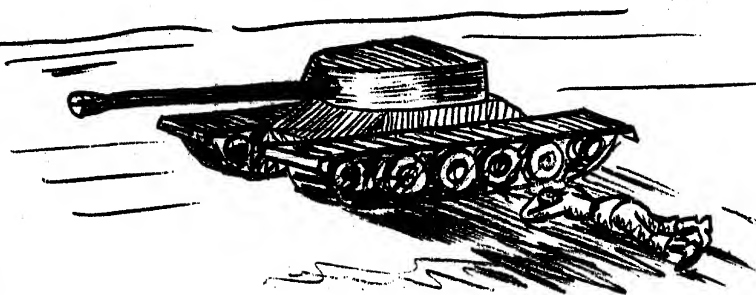
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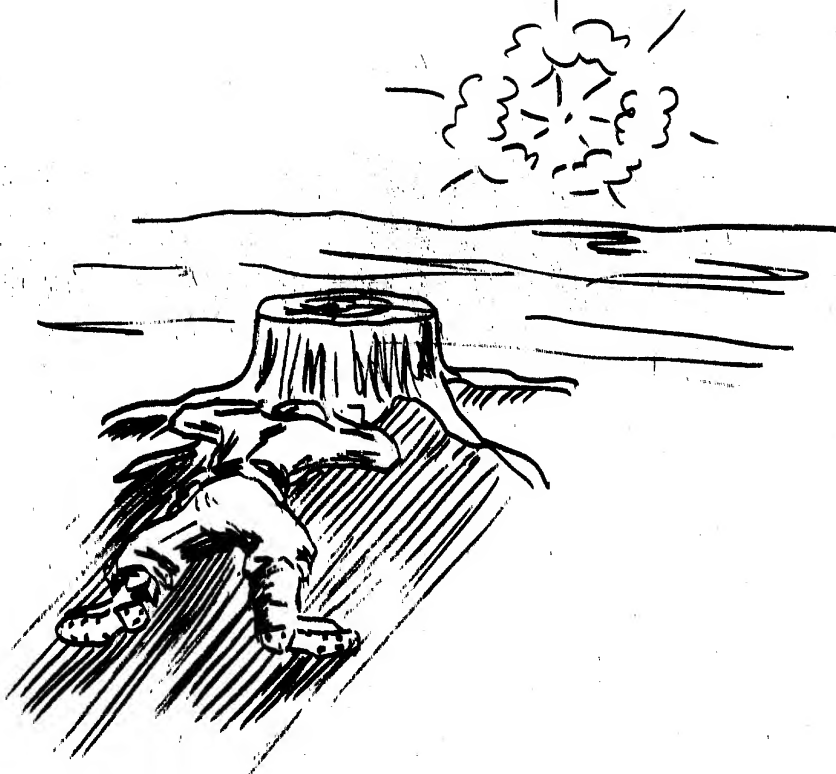
Enclosure B

Explosion

Using tank or tree stump for individual protection against atomic attack.



Explosion



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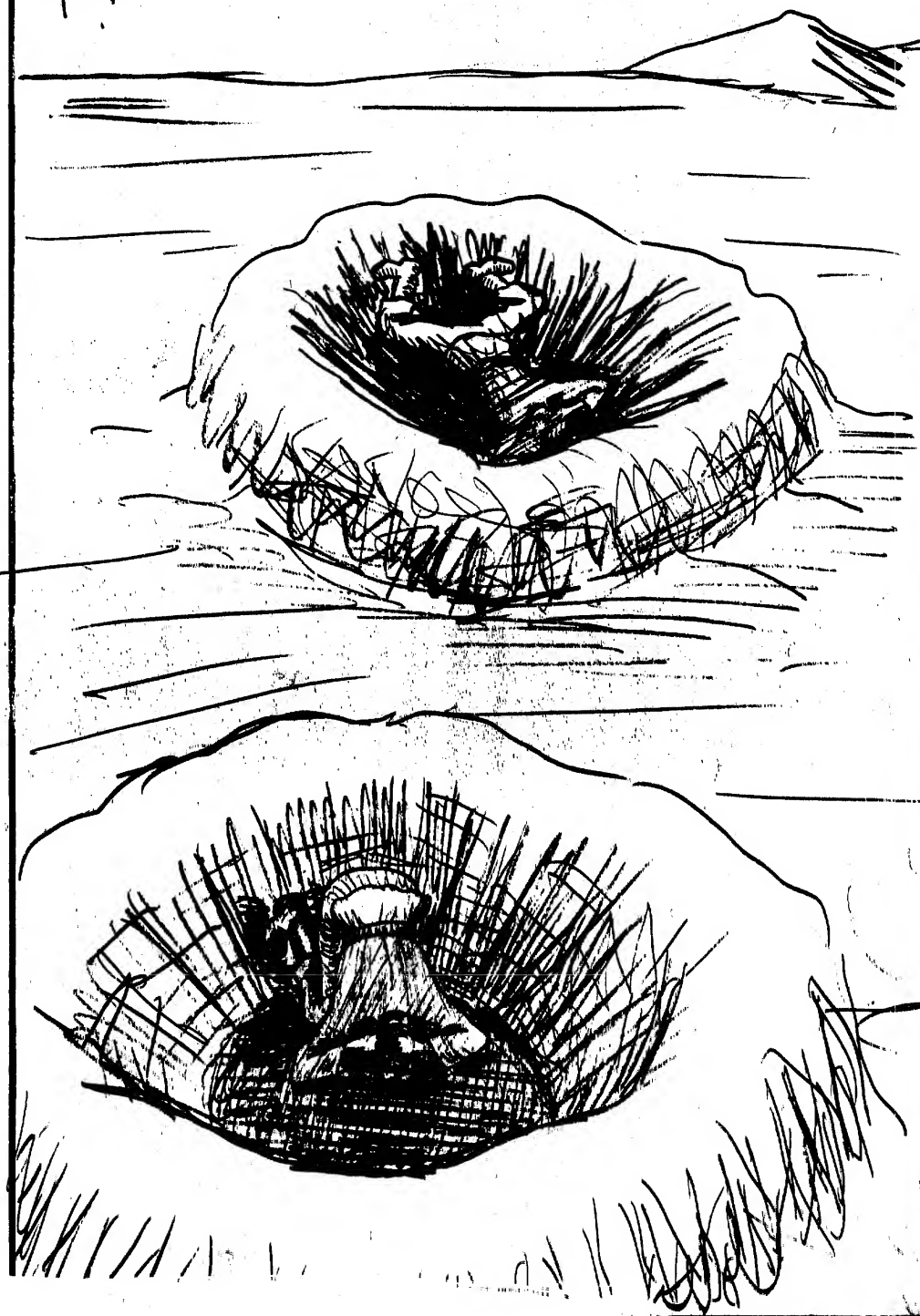
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Enclosure C

Explosion



Using shell hole for individual protection  
against atomic attack.



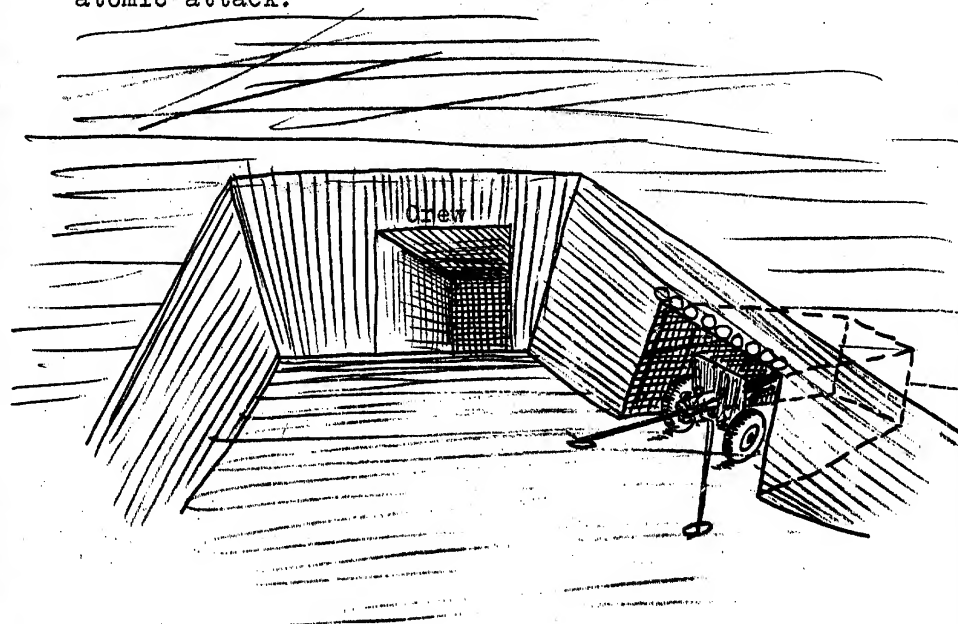


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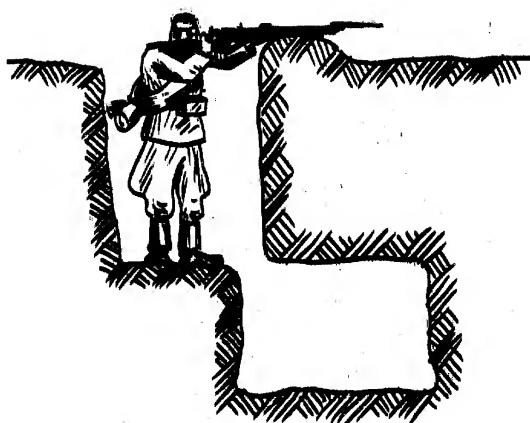
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Enclosure D

Method of digging in field pieces defense against atomic attack.



Method of digging in. Individual fox holes or trenches.



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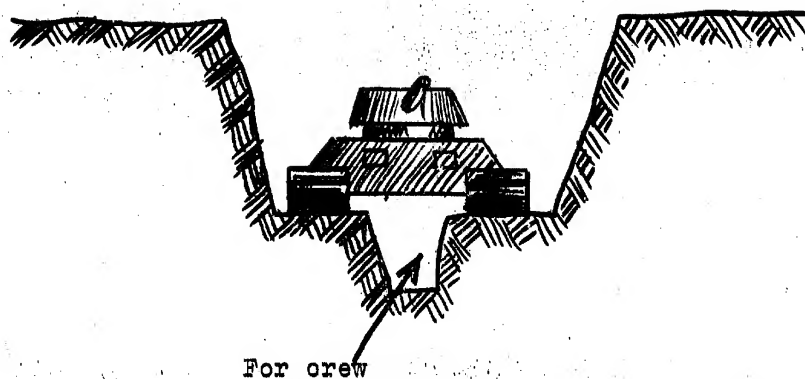
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Enclosure E

Method of digging in tanks, SPs, vehicles etc. against  
atomic attack.



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